5-113a (Rev. 3-21-73)

1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Adams
1 - Mr. Walsh
1 - Mr. Wannall
1 - Mr. Kolombatovic
1 - Mr. Mignosa
1 - Mr. O'Connor

Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 12/18/75

Attached from Legat, Buenos Aires, advises Argentine Air Force (AAA) officers closed down the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Airport on the morning of December 18, 1975. AAA middle grade officers were reported in rebellion and to have placed the AAA commander-in-chief under house arrest. There are two versions regarding the purpose of the rebellion. One is that the junior officers have initiated a coup d'etat and will be joined by the Argentine Army and Navy in order to overthrow the incumbent Peronist government. The second version, considered more plausible, is that AAA junior officers are extremely displeased over what they consider political maneuvering in the recently published AAA promotion and reassignment schedule. The AAA commander-in-chief has consistently removed AAA officers believed challenging his position. As of 12:30 p.m., 12/18/75, Buenos Aires time, a closed meeting of Argentine Navy Admirals was being held, purpose not known.

The above information was furnished by the U. S. Embassy, Buenos Aires to State Department, Washington, D.C., by flash telegram. Embassy personnel are taking security precautions.

Legat, Buenos Aires, furnished the above for information only of the Bureau.

FBI

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Argentina Project

and will keep the Bureau currently informed.

JJO:jmr

- 2 -

NW 55810 DocId:33004369 Page 2

Declassified Case: NW 55810 Date: 11-02-2018

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 18 1975

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. A.D.-Adm.	
Dep. A.D.-Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Admin.	
Comp. Syst.	
Ext. Affairs	
Files & Com.	
Gen. Inv.	
Ident.	
Inspection	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Plan. & Eval.	
Spec. Inv.	
Training	
Legal Coun.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director Sec'y	

1:00 PM IMMEDIATE 12/18/75 GJK

TO DIRECTOR NR 223-18

FROM LEGAT BUENOS AIRES (109-2)

FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS-ARGENTINA; IS-ARGENTINA.

DURING THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 18, 1975, THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE CLOSED JORGE NEWBERRY DOWNTOWN METROPOLITAN AIRPORT IN BUENOS AIRES FOR UNEXPLAINED REASONS. SUBSEQUENTLY IT WAS REVEALED THAT JUNIOR MIDDLE GRADE OFFICERS OF THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE WERE IN REBELLION AND HAD PLACED THE AIR FORCE COMMANDER IN CHIEF UNDER HOUSE ARREST. THERE ARE TWO CONFLICTING VERSIONS REGARDING THE PURPOSE OF THE AIR FORCE REVOLT. ONE IS THAT THE AIR FORCE JUNIOR OFFICERS HAVE INITIATED THE BEGINNING OF A COUP D'ETAT AND WILL BE JOINED BY THE ARGENTINE NAVY AND ARMY IN ORDER TO OVERTHROW THE INCUMBENT PERONIST GOVERNMENT. THE SECOND VERSION AND PROBABLY THE MOST PLAUSIBLE IS THAT JUNIOR AIR FORCE OFFICERS WERE EXTREMELY DISPLEASED OVER WHAT THEY CONSIDERED TO BE POLITICAL MANEUVERING IN THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED AIR FORCE PROMOTION AND REASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE. IT IS NOTED THAT THE AIR FORCE COMANDER IN CHIEF HAS CONSISTENTLY REMOVED FROM CENTER STATE ANY OFFICER

END PAGE ONE

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Argentina Project

109-12-201

JAN 7 1976

JAN 15 1976

IN THE AIR FORCE BELIEVED BY THE AIR FORCE COMMANDER IN CHIEF AS A COMPETITOR OR CHALLENGER. AS OF 12:30 PM, BUENOS AIRES TIME, DECEMBER 18, 1975, A CLOSED MEETING IS BEING HELD OF ARGENTINE NAVY ADMIRALS, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.

FOREGOING HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE BUENOS AIRES EMBASSY TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. BY FLASH TELEGRAM. IT IS PROVIDED ONLY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU. I AM CLOSELY FOLLOWING THIS MATTER AND WILL KEEP THE BUREAU CURRENTLY ADVISED.

OFFICE PERSONNEL ARE TAKING APPROPRIATE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS.

END

NW 55810 DocId:33004369 Page 4